Fellowship for outstanding artistes

500. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme for the award of fellowship to outstanding artistes in the fields of performing, literary and plastic arts;

(b) if so, the details and main features of the scheme;

(c) whether any fellowship has been awarded in the State of Goa; and

(d) if so, the number of such fellowships awarded, amount made available and the years during which these fellowships were granted?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI ABMIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Culture under the scheme of "Award of fellowship of outstanding artistes in the fields of performing, literary and plastic arts" awards junior and senior fellowships of the value of Rs. 6000/- p.m. and Rs. 12000/- p.m. to the artistes in the age group of 25-40 years and 40 years and above respectively. These fellowships are awarded to deserving applicants after ascertaining his/her capabilities in undertaking research oriented projects both academic as well as performance related. The fellowships are awarded for a period of two years only.

(c) and (d) In recent years, in 2004-05, one juniour fellowship and one senior fellowship has been awarded to applicants from Goa, for which a sum of Rs. 1.20 lakhs and Rs. 2.40 lakhs were disbursed respectively.

Multipurpose Cultural Complex

501. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a scheme for setting up of Multipurpose Cultural Complexes and for giving them financial assistance;

(b) whether the State Government of Goa had applied to the Central Government under the scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI ABMIKA SONI): (a) A Scheme for setting up of Multipurpose Cultural Complexes, which was in existence till 31.3.2007, has been discontinued by Planning Commission from the current financial year.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Preservation of the classical dances

502. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to preserve the classical dance form of Bharatnatyam;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made thereon;